



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

DIVISION OF HAZARDOUS SITE MITIGATION

CN 413, Trenton, N.J. 08625-0413

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RECEIVED
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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM

Anthony J. Farro
Director

May 21, 1991

Richard Salkie, Associate Director for
Removal and Emergency Preparedness Programs
U.S.E.P.A. Region II
Woodbridge Ave.
Edison, N.J. 08837

Re: Ventron/Velsicol Superfund Site
(a.k.a. Berry's Creek)

Dear Mr. Salkie:

In December 1990^o we completed installation of 12 monitor wells at the subject site. Continuous split-spoon soil samples (as field conditions permitted) were collected in conjunction with the well installations. The validated soil sample results are included in Attachment 1. Of particular note is the 1820 PPM mercury hit in the 0.5 'to 2.5' sample at MW-10. This well location is near the loading dock area of the Rosenblum Warehouse, a supplier of food to the restaurant industry.

In February 1991, we proceeded to collect (1) samples around the warehouse to assess the potential for worker/customer exposure to contaminated soil/sediment and puddled water, (2) ground water samples from the 12 wells, and (3) soil samples under a compost/woodchip pile at the Wood-Ridge POTW allegedly being distributed in public accessible areas of the community. The results of these sampling events were received 4/22/91 and are currently undergoing QA/QC validation. We will make the results of these sampling activities available after the data is validated.

Below is a chronology of your office's and ATSDR's involvement to date at this site:

- On 6/28/90, NJDEP conducted a joint site visit at the subject site with Nick Magriples of your Removal Action Branch and his accompanying field personnel. With the aid of two (2) mercury vapor analyzers, a preliminary site assessment of potential air vapor contamination inside and around the 2 warehouses on the site was performed. The results of this preliminary air contaminant assessment indicated minimal air vapor contamination present.

- On 8/9/90, at the request of ATSDR, we conducted a joint site visit with our Department of Health (NJDOH) to familiarize ATSDR

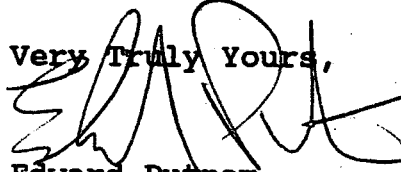


with the site. A follow-up letter from NJDOH to ATSDR (Attachment 2) was sent on 9/12/90 requesting ATSDR to facilitate, prior to initiation of the RI/FS, additional environmental investigation to confirm or reject suspected environmental and possible resultant human exposure pathways. ATSDR was requested to communicate our concerns to the appropriate ATSDR Headquarters and USEPA personnel.

Please inform me of the action, if any, EPA intends to take at this site. Keep in mind this site has two (2) viable and involved responsible parties.

Please call Site Manager, Joseph Maher, at 633-0765 if you have any questions. Your prompt attention to this request is appreciated.

Very Truly Yours,



Edward Putnam,
Assistant Director

Attachments:

- Attachment 1 - Soil Sampling Data (from well drilling) w/Map
- Attachment 2 - 9/12/90 Letter From NJDOH To ATSDR

c: Anthony Farro, Director-DHSM
Bob Soboleski, Chief-BSM
Linda Grayson, BPA
Tom Cozzi, BSM
Steve MacGregor, BEERA



ATTACHMENT 2

State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

CN 360

TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0360

FRANCES J. DUNSTON, M.D., M.P.H.
STATE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

September 12, 1990

Arthur Block; Regional Representative
ATSDR Region 2
26 Federal Plaza
Room 3137 C
New York, N.Y. 10278

Re: Berry's Creek (AKA Ventron/Velsicol)

Art:

I have had the opportunity to confer with the appropriate NJDEP personnel (Mr. Joseph Maher; Site Manager, and Mr. Steve MacGregor, Technical Coordinator) concerning the nature of existing environmental data, and the current and proposed strategies of remedial activity at the Berry's Creek site.

Briefly the past/existing investigations of the site may be summarized as follows:

- *) There is extensive data regarding surface and shallow sub-surface soil contamination of the nearby residential areas and additional data describing soil quality in the Wood-Ridge Public Works Department area. A copy of the data summary, provided by NJDEP, is attached.
- *) Air sampling was performed by NJDEP in August 1989. A copy of the data summary, provided by NJDEP is attached.
- *) A Study was conducted by Environmental Resources Management (ERM)-Southeast for the NJDEP entitled: *Task I, Berry's Creek Study, Nature Of The Problem*. (November, 1985). You will receive a copy of this document by mail directly from NJDEP.

Additionally, Mr. Maher has provided the following general information regarding NJDEP activities at the site:

- *) Sediment samples of Berry's Creek have been characterized for site-related contaminants.

- *) Surface water quality is currently being monitored on a periodic basis.
- *) Creek biota have been the subject of two sampling events conducted in 1988.

The Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study for the Berry's Creek site is expected to go out to bid in December 1990, and a contract awarded in March 1991. The acceptance of bids for a independent contract for the installation of 12 monitoring wells should occur this fall. Tentatively, 7 wells are planned on-site, while 5 will be associated with the "food warehouse" area.

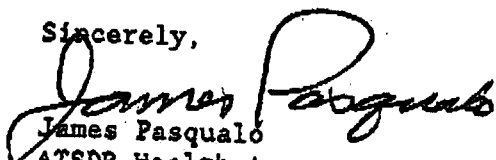
As you are aware, the NJDEP is currently involved with the remediation of soils in nine residential properties where levels exceed concentrations of 14 ppm. While NJDOH considers this to be a positive action, it is the evaluation of this office that exposure to residential soils may not be the only environmental pathway of concern regarding this site. Additional environmental investigation is indicated to confirm or reject suspected environmental and possible resultant human exposure pathways.

Due to the nature and extent of the contamination associated with the site, and the proximity of workers and sensitive commercial operations to the site, it is our recommendation ATSDR facilitate the following actions:

- *) Arrange and/or assist for definitive environmental sampling of suspect media (particularly air) prior to the initiation of the RI/FS.
- *) If environmental and subsequent human exposure pathways are established, arrange and/or assist in conduction of appropriate follow-up activities.

Please communicate our concerns to the appropriate ATSDR (Atlanta) and USEPA personnel, and advise as to when we may discuss this situation in greater detail.

Sincerely,


James Pasquale
ATSDR Health Assessment Project
Environmental Health Service
New Jersey Department of Health

c:
w/o attachments

Joseph Maher; NJDEP
Steve MacGregor; NJDEP
Jonathan Savrin; NJDOH
Chris Milne; NJDOH

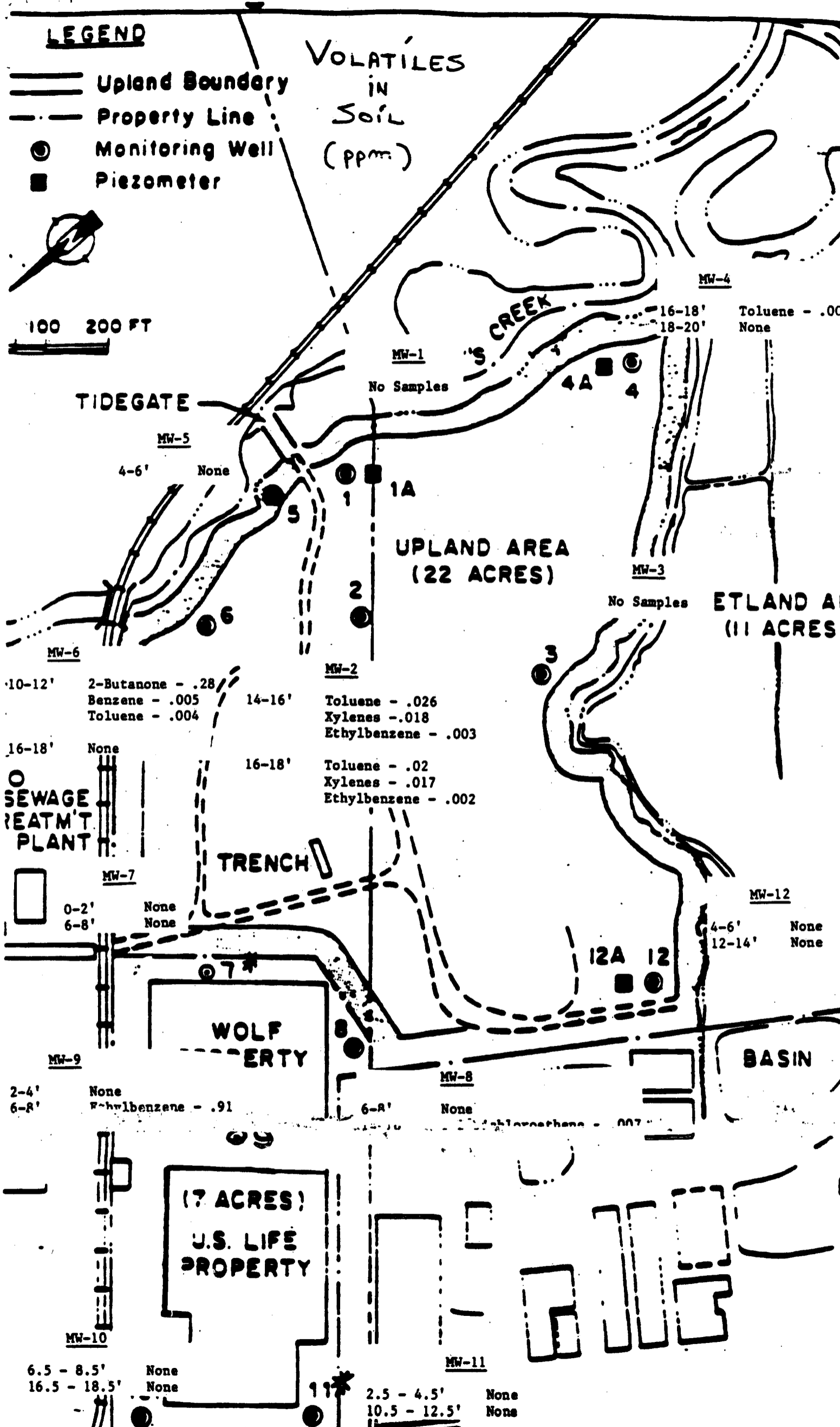
LEGEND

- Upland Boundary
- Property Line
- Monitoring Well
- Piezometer



100 200 FT

VOLATILES
IN
SOIL
(ppm)



LEGEND

Upland Boundary

Property Line

Monitoring Well

Piezometer

Semivolatiles
in
Soil
(PPM)

MW-5

4 - 6' Benzoic Acid - .084
Naphthalene - .042
2-Methylnaphthalene - .011
Acenaphthylene - .032
Phenanthrene - .082
Anthracene - .082
Di-n-butylphthalate - 2.2
Fluoranthene - .026
Butylbenzylphthalate - .013
Chrysene - .23
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate - 1.4
Benzofluoranthene - .275
Benzopyrene - .13

MW-6

12' Di-n-butylphthalate - .84
18' Diethylphthalate - .056
Phenanthrene - .015
Di-n-butylphthalate - .520
Fluoranthene - .031
Pyrene - .014
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate - .280

MW-7

2' Benzoic Acid - .11
2-Methylnaphthalene - .036
Acenaphthylene - .079
Acenaphthene - .045
Dibenzofuran - .037
Fluorene - .1
Phenanthrene - .81
Anthracene - .17
Fluoranthene - .9
Pyrene - .66
Chrysene - .57
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate - .48
Benzofluoranthene - .61
Benzopyrene - .33

8' Benzoic Acid - .075
Di-n-butylphthalate - 1.0
Pyrene - .006
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate - .23

WOLF
PROPERTY

17 ACRES

MW-10

5 - 8.5' Benzoic Acid - .120
Phenanthrene - .15
Di-n-butylphthalate - 2.3
Fluoranthene - .023
Pyrene - .1
Benzanthracene - .26
Chrysene - .33
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate - .64

6.5 - 18.5' Di-n-butylphthalate - 1.3
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate - .3

MW-1

No Samples

MW-2

14 - 16' Di-n-butylphthalate - .6
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate - .45
16 - 18' Naphthalene - .024
2-Methylnaphthalene - .049
Di-n-butylphthalate - 1.0
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate - .38

MW-8

6 - 8' Di-n-butylphthalate - 1.4
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate - .29
14 - 16' Phenol - .89
Di-n-butylphthalate - .33
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate - .29

MW-9

2 - 4' Benzoic Acid - .14
2-Methylnaphthalene - .088
Fluoranthene - .049
Pyrene - .049
Butylbenzylphthalate - .073
Chrysene - .049
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate - 7.9

Naphthalene - 2.4
2-Methylnaphthalene - 11.0
Dibenzofuran - 2.3
Fluorene - 3.4
Phenanthrene - 5.5
Di-n-butylphthalate - 3.3
Fluoranthene - .44
Pyrene - .26
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate - .58

MW-11

2.5 - 4.5' Di-n-butylphthalate - 2.0
Fluoranthene - .047
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate - .55
10.5 - 12.5' Di-n-butylphthalate - 1.2
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate - .596

MW-4

16 - 18' 2-Methylnaphthalene - .007
Diethylphthalate - .056
Phenanthrene - .04
Anthracene - .009
Di-n-butylphthalate - 1.9
Fluoranthene - .059
Pyrene - .051
Butylbenzylphthalate - .85
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate - 1.0
Di-n-octyl phthalate - .01

18 - 20' Benzoic Acid - .013
Naphthalene - .018
2-Methylnaphthalene - .015
Dibenzofuran - .003
Diethylphthalate - .36
Phenanthrene - .042
Anthracene - .009
Di-n-butylphthalate - 2.2
Fluoranthene - .061
Pyrene - .046
Butylbenzylphthalate - 1.4
Chrysene - .027
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate - 1.4
Di-n-octyl phthalate - .013

MW-3

No Samples

MW-12

4 - 6' 2-Methylnaphthalene - .08
Phenanthrene - .32
Di-n-butylphthalate - 1.7
Pyrene - .21
Chrysene - .3
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate - .31

12 - 14' Naphthalene - .009
Di-n-butylphthalate - .3
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate - .095

WETLAND AREA
(11 ACRES)

BASIN

BASIN

LEGEND

- Upland Boundary
- Property Line
- Monitoring Well
- Piezometer



100 200 FT

PCBs & Pesticides
in
Soil
(ppm)

BERRY'S CREEK

MW-4

16 - 18' None
18 - 20' None

MW-1

No Samples

MW-5

4 - 6' Aroclor 1254 - .55
gamma-Chlordane - .09

MW-2

14 - 16' Aroclor 1260 - .083
16 - 18' None

WETLAND AR
(11 ACRES)

MW-6

10 - 12' DDT - .034
alpha-Chlordane - .067
gamma-Chlordane - .061

16 - 18' None

SEWAGE
TREATMENT
PLANT

MW-7

0 - 2' Aroclor 1248 - 4.4
6 - 8' Aroclor 1242 - .79

MW-8

6 - 8' None
14 - 16' None

WOLF
PROPERTY

MW-12

10 - 12' None
16 - 18' None

12A 12

BASIN

MW-9

2 - 4' Aroclor 1260 - .36
6 - 8' None

17 ACRES

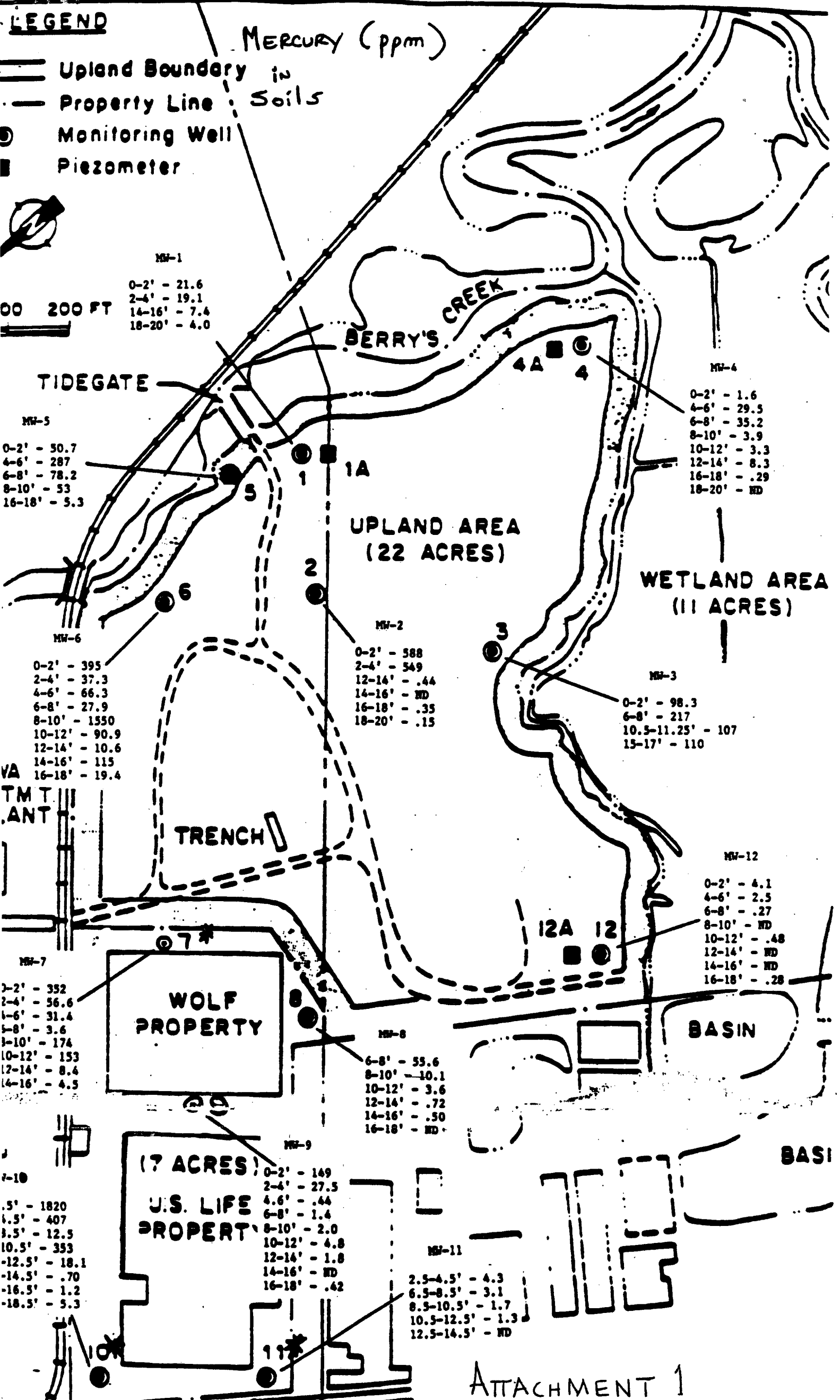
U.S. LIFE
PROPERTY

MW-10

6.5 - 8.5' None
16.5 - 18.5' None

MW-11

2.5 - 4.5' None
10.5 - 12.5' None



LEGEND

- Upland Boundary
- Property Line
- Monitoring Well
- Piezometer



100 200 FT

OTHER METALS ABOVE
ACTION LEVELS
IN SOILS
(PPM)

TIDE GAUGE

MW-5

4 - 6' Zinc 1410

MW-6

10 - 12' Arsenic - 23
16 - 18' None

MW-7

0 - 2' Chromium - 136
Copper - 332
Nickel - 193
Silver - 30
Thallium - 10
Vanadium - 245
Zinc - 10600

6 - 8' Zinc - 379

WOLF
PROPERTY

2 - 4' Copper - 592
6 - 8' None

(7 ACRES)
U.S. LIFE
PROPERTY

MW-10

6.5 - 8.5' None
16.5 - 18.5' None

MW-11

2.5 - 4.5' None
10.5 - 12.5' None

MW-1

No Samples

UPLAND AREA
(22 ACRES)

MW-2

14 - 16' None
16 - 18' None

MW-8

6 - 8' None
14 - 16' None

CREEK

MW-4

16 - 18' None
18 - 20' None

MW-3

No Samples

WETLAND AR
(11 ACRES)

MW-12

4 - 6' None
12 - 14' None

BASIN